

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 29 without disclaimer or prejudice to be pursued in this or a later-filed continuation or continuation-in-part application.

Please add the following new claims.

1-29. (canceled)

30. (new) An apparatus, comprising:

a first information receiving apparatus having a first group address;

a second information receiving apparatus having a second group address; and

an information transmitting apparatus in communication with the first and second information receiving apparatus via a network and being arranged and constructed to:

transmit via the network two or more blocks of data subdivided from a designated information together with the first group address in response to receiving a request to transmit the designated information from the first information receiving apparatus;

transmit via the network one or more blocks of data that have not yet been transmitted to the first information receiving apparatus with the first group address and the second group address in response to receiving a request to transmit the designated information from the second information receiving apparatus prior to transmitting all blocks of data, which contain the designated information, to the first information receiving apparatus; and

transmit via the network one or more blocks of data already transmitted to the first information receiving apparatus with the second group address,

wherein the first and second information receiving apparatus are arranged and constructed to receive blocks of data via the network, wherein the group address of the received blocks of data are identical to the respective group addresses, and

wherein the first information receiving apparatus is further arranged and constructed to transmit a retransmission request to retransmit one or more selected blocks of data, and the information transmitting apparatus is further arranged and constructed to, in response to the retransmission request, select a suitable communication protocol and retransmit via the network the selected blocks of data to the first information receiving apparatus in accordance with the suitable communication protocol.

31. (new) The apparatus of claim 30, wherein the information transmitting apparatus is arranged and constructed to cyclically transmit the blocks of data subdivided from the designated information in a predetermined sequence when the information transmitting apparatus receives another request to transmit the designated information from another information receiving apparatus prior to transmitting all blocks of data subdivided from the designated information.

32. (new) The apparatus of claim 30, wherein the information transmitting apparatus is arranged and constructed to select the suitable communication protocol based upon a status of bandwidth utilization of the network.

33. (new) The apparatus of claim 30, wherein the information transmitting apparatus is arranged and constructed to select the suitable communication protocol based upon a number of blocks comprising the selected blocks of data.

34. (new) The system of claim 30, wherein the suitable communication protocol is selected from the group consisting of an unicasting protocol and a multicasting protocol.